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KENYON & KENYON LLP
1500 K STREET N.W.
SUITE 700
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER
WANG, BEN C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2192	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/812,938	DUBEY ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	BEN C. WANG	2192	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _the amendment dated June 23, 2008_.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under _Ex parte Quayle_, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-15_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-15_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Applicant's amendment dated June 23, 2008, responding to the Office action

mailed March 21, 2008 provided in the rejection of claims 1-15, wherein claims 1-11 and

15 have been amended

        Claims 1-15 remain pending in the application and which have been fully

considered by the examiner.

        Applicant's arguments with respect to claims currently amended have been fully

considered but are moot in view of the new grounds of rejection – see *Ginter et al.* - art made

of record, as applied hereto.

2.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in

this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

        A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR

1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however,

will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final

action.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102(e)

The following is quotation of 35 U.S.C. 102(e) which form the basis for all obviousness

rejections set forth in this office action:

> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed
> in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for
> patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an
> international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this
> subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United
> States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3.   Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ginter

et al., (Pat. No. US 7,095,854 B1) (hereinafter 'Ginter' - art made of record)

4.   **As to claim 1** (Currently Amended), Ginter discloses a method comprising:

    (i) querying a user to identify, via configuration software of a computer system,

activities that make up a business process (e.g., Col. 3, Lines 36-37 - VDE (Virtual

Distribution Environment) provides <u>comprehensive and configurable transaction

management</u> ...; Col. 6, Lines 66-67 – <u>configurable control set information</u> that can be

selected by users ...; Col. 8, Line 60 through Col. 9, Line 4 - ... VDE supports systems

by which such applications can be created, modified, and/or reused ... by offering a

system that supports <u>a standardized control environment</u> ... models through the use of

<u>a programmable, secure electronic transactions management foundation and reusable

and extensible executable components</u> .. a single electronic "world" within which most

forms of electronic transaction activities can be managed; Col. 10, Lines 59-65 - with

VDE, electronic commerce participants are free <u>to structure and restructure their

electronic commerce business activities and relationships</u> ...;Col. 19, Lines 53-62 - VDE

also accommodates a semi-automated process … <u>through user interface means</u> …

processing certain control information … to certain <u>user interface queries</u> for selection of

certain alternative choices …);

   (ii) for each activity identified in step (i), querying the user to provide process control

elements that define a behavior of the respective activity of the business process (e.g.,

Col. 84, Lines 45-59 - … These same components can be combined in different ways to

form different component assemblies providing <u>completely different functional behavior</u>

…) with respect to a business object to be acted on by the activity (e.g., Col. 2, Lines

34-39 - … transaction control …), for said process control elements including:

-   a status element, which represents a progress level within the business process

  that the data object has reached by arriving at the instant activity (e.g., Col. 93,

  Lines 38-41 - … to store control and <u>status information</u>; Col. 94, Lines 63-67 - …

  <u>a mechanism for querying the status</u> and controlling a loaded services …; Fig.

  28 – element of 447(1) - Receiving Record; Col. 155, Lines 44-49 - … scheduled

  and/or completed reception …; Col. 290, Lines 27-40 - … use the search

  mechanism to help locate content … schedule content for delivery, make

  inquiries of account status ...);

- a user interface element, which defines the scope within which users are allowed

  to operate on the data object for the instant activity (e.g., Abstract, Lines 1-11 -

  … to ensure that information is <u>accessed and used only in authorized way</u> and

  maintain the integrity, availability, and/or confidentiality of the information …; Fig.

  72A – LOG IN USER INTERFACE; Col. 6, Lines 19-32 – Chain of Handling and

Control - ... VDE can protect a collection of rights belonging to various parties

having in rights in, or to, electronic information ...; Col. 17, Lines 33-37 – VDE

supports widely varying business and/or data security models that <u>can involve a</u>

<u>broad range of participants at various "levels" of VDE content and/or content</u>

<u>control information pathways of handling</u>);

- a plausibility check element, which verifies that the data object sufficiently meets

  a set of criteria to proceed past the instant activity (e.g., Col. 19, Lines 38-44 - ...

  from <u>an automated electronic process</u> ... "<u>evaluated</u>" ... whether <u>certain other</u>

  <u>electronic terms and conditions</u> attached to content ... are <u>acceptable</u> ...);

- a release element, which signals that the data object is ready to proceed past the

  instant activity in the business process (e.g., Col. 57, Lines 53-55 – The "events

  process" <u>detects things that happen ("event") and determines which of those</u>

  <u>"events" need action by the other "processes</u>."; Fig. 52; Col.189, Lines 50-55 –

  CLOSE method also releases appropriate records and resources associated with

  the object at this time ...), and

- an authorization element, which specifies a set of users that is allowed to operate

  on the data object for the instant activity (e.g., Abstract, Lines 1-11 - ... to ensure

  that information is <u>accessed and used only in authorized way</u> and maintain the

  integrity, availability, and/or confidentiality of the information ...; Fig. 36; Fig. 78 –

  element 3346 – Authorization System; Col. 11, Line 60 through Col. 12, Lines 46;

  Col. 17, Lines 33-37 - ... <u>a broad range of participants at various "levels" of VDE</u>

  <u>content and/or content control information pathways of handling</u>); and

(iii) storing the defined business process and activity behaviors in configuration data of the computer system (e.g., Col. 27, Line 1 through Col. 28, Line 17 – employ "templates" to ease the process of configuring capabilities of the present invention as they relate to specific industries or business ... Templates support the efficient specification and/or manipulation of criteria related to specific content types, distribution approaches ...; Col. 56, Lines 56-58 – "Rules and controls" may "<u>persist</u>" as they pass through a "chain of handling and control" ...) ; and

(iv) dynamically generate the business process from the activities and the process control elements provided by the user, to operate on business objects managed by the computer system (e.g., Col. 88, Lines 2-7 - the ability to <u>dynamically assemble independently deliverable components at execution</u> time based on particular objects and users provides a high degree of flexibility, and facilitates or enables a distributed database, processing and execution environment ...; Col. 169, Lines 11-21 – ROS (Rights Operating System) dynamically creates active processes and task in response to the occurrence of an event ... This ability <u>to dynamically create (and end) tasks in response to events provides great flexibility</u> ...)

5.   **As to claim 2** (Currently Amended) (incorporating the rejection in claim 1), Ginter discloses the method further comprising performing one or more activities of the business process in accordance with a corresponding defined behavior (e.g., system (e.g., Col. 27, Line 1 through Col. 28, Line 17 – employ "templates" to ease the process of configuring capabilities of the present invention as they relate to specific industries or

business ... Templates support the efficient specification and/or manipulation of criteria

related to specific content types, distribution approaches ...)

6.   **As to claim 3** (Currently Amended), Ginter discloses a computer system

comprising:

- a processor;

- a memory coupled to the processor and storing instructions adapted to be executed

  by the processor, the instructions implementing a method including:

  - querying a user to identify, via configuration software, activities that make up

    business process (e.g., Col. 3, Lines 36-37 - VDE (Virtual Distribution

    Environment) provides comprehensive and configurable transaction

    management ...; Col. 6, Lines 66-67 – configurable control set information that

    can be selected by users ...; Col. 8, Line 60 through Col. 9, Line 4 - ... VDE

    supports systems by which such applications can be created, modified, and/or

    reused ... by offering a system that supports a standardized control environment

    ... models through the use of a programmable, secure electronic transactions

    management foundation and reusable and extensible executable components ..

    a single electronic "world" within which most forms of electronic transaction

    activities can be managed; Col. 10, Lines 59-65 - with VDE, electronic

    commerce participants are free to structure and restructure their electronic

    commerce business activities and relationships ...;Col. 19, Lines 53-62 - VDE

    also accommodates a semi-automated process ... through user interface means

... processing certain control information ... to certain <u>user interface queries</u> for selection of certain alternative choices ...);

- for each identified activity, querying the user to provide process control elements that define a behavior of the respective activity of the business process (e.g., Col. 84, Lines 45-59 - ... These same components can be combined in different ways to form different component assemblies providing <u>completely different functional behavior</u> ...) with respect to a business object to be acted on by the activity (e.g., Col. 2, Lines 34-39 - ... transaction control ...), said process control elements (e.g.,) including:

  - a status element, which represents a progress level within the business process that the data object has reached by arriving at the instant activity (e.g., Col. 93, Lines 38-41 - ... to store control and <u>status information</u>; Col. 94, Lines 63-67 - ... <u>a mechanism for querying the status</u> and controlling a loaded services ...; Fig. 28 – element of 447(1) - Receiving Record; Col. 155, Lines 44-49 - ... scheduled and/or completed reception ...; Col. 290, Lines 27-40 - ... use the search mechanism to help locate content ... schedule content for delivery, make inquiries of account status ...);

  - a user interface element, which defines the scope within which users are allowed to operate on the data object for the instant activity (e.g., Abstract, Lines 1-11 - ... to ensure that information is <u>accessed and used only in authorized way</u> and maintain the integrity, availability, and/or confidentiality of the information ...; Fig. 72A – LOG IN USER INTERFACE; Col. 6, Lines 19-

32 – Chain of Handling and Control - … VDE can protect a collection of rights belonging to various parties having in rights in, or to, electronic information …; Col. 17, Lines 33-37 – VDE supports widely varying business and/or data security models that <u>can involve a broad range of participants at various "levels" of VDE content and/or content control information pathways of handling</u>);

- a plausibility check element, which verifies that the data object sufficiently meets a set of criteria to proceed past the instant activity (e.g., Col. 19, Lines 38-44 - … from <u>an automated electronic process</u> … "<u>evaluated</u>" … whether <u>certain other electronic terms and conditions</u> attached to content … are <u>acceptable</u> …);

- a release element, which signals that the data object is ready to proceed past the instant activity in the business process (e.g., Col. 57, Lines 53-55 – The "events process" <u>detects things that happen ("event") and determines which of those "events" need action by the other "processes</u>."; Fig. 52; Col.189, Lines 50-55 – CLOSE method also releases appropriate records and resources associated with the object at this time …), and

- an authorization element, which specifies a set of users that is allowed to operate on the data object for the instant activity (e.g., Abstract, Lines 1-11 - … to ensure that information is <u>accessed and used only in authorized way</u> and maintain the integrity, availability, and/or confidentiality of the information …; Fig. 36; Fig. 78 – element 3346 – Authorization System; Col. 11, Line 60

through Col. 12, Lines 46; Col. 17, Lines 33-37 - … <u>a broad range of participants at various "levels" of VDE content and/or content control information pathways of handling</u>);

o   storing the defined business process and activity behaviors in configuration data of the computer system (e.g., Col. 27, Line 1 through Col. 28, Line 17 – employ "templates" to ease the process of configuring capabilities of the present invention as they relate to specific industries or business … Templates support the efficient specification and/or manipulation of criteria related to specific content types, distribution approaches …; Col. 56, Lines 56-58 – "Rules and controls" may "<u>persist</u>" as they pass through a "chain of handling and control" …); and

o   dynamically generating the business process from the activities and the process control elements provided by the user, to operate on business objects managed by the computer system (e.g., Col. 88, Lines 2-7 - the ability to <u>dynamically assemble independently deliverable components at execution</u> time based on particular objects and users provides a high degree of flexibility, and facilitates or enables a distributed database, processing and execution environment …; Col. 169, Lines 11-21 – ROS (Rights Operating System) dynamically creates active processes and task in response to the occurrence of an event … This ability <u>to dynamically create (and end) tasks in response to events provides great flexibility</u> …)

7.   **As to claim 4** (Currently Amended) (incorporating the rejection in claim 3), Ginter

discloses the system the method further comprising performing one or more activities of

the business process in accordance with the configuration data (e.g., Col. 27, Line 1

through Col. 28, Line 17 – employ "templates" to ease the process of configuring

capabilities of the present invention as they relate to specific industries or business …

Templates support the efficient specification and/or manipulation of criteria related to

specific content types, distribution approaches …; Col. 56, Lines 56-58 – "Rules and

controls" may "<u>persist</u>" as they pass through a "chain of handling and control" …)

8.   **As to claim 5** (Currently Amended) (incorporating the rejection in claim 3), Ginter

discloses the computer system the method further comprising associating respective

configuration values with retrieval parameters (e.g., Fig. 21, element of 872a –

PARAMETERS & DATA; Col. 20, Lines 49-59 - … for data values based on operational

parameters …)

9.   **As to claim 6** (incorporating the rejection in claim 5) (Original), Ginter discloses

the computer system the method further comprising reading configuration values based

on the retrieval parameters (e.g., Fig. 21, element of 872a – PARAMETERS & DATA;

Col. 20, Lines 49-59 - … for data values based on operational parameters …), and

controlling a behavior of one or more activities of the business process or an activity

thereof based on the configuration values (e.g., Col. 27, Line 1 through Col. 28, Line 17

– employ "templates" to ease the process of configuring capabilities of the present

invention as they relate to specific industries or business … Templates support the

efficient specification and/or manipulation of criteria related to specific content types,

distribution approaches …)

10.   **As to claim 7** (Currently Amended), Ginter discloses a machine-readable

medium storing computer-executable instructions adapted to be executed by a

processor to perform a method including:

- querying a user to identify, via configuration software, activities that make up a

  business process comprises (e.g., Col. 3, Lines 36-37 - VDE (Virtual Distribution

  Environment) provides <u>comprehensive and configurable transaction management</u> …;

  Col. 6, Lines 66-67 – <u>configurable control set information</u> that can be selected by

  users …; Col. 8, Line 60 through Col. 9, Line 4 - … VDE supports systems by which

  such applications can be created, modified, and/or reused … by offering a system

  that supports <u>a standardized control environment</u> … models through the use of <u>a</u>

  <u>programmable, secure electronic transactions management foundation and reusable</u>

  <u>and extensible executable components</u> .. a single electronic "world" within which

  most forms of electronic transaction activities can be managed; Col. 10, Lines 59-65

  - with VDE, electronic commerce participants are free <u>to structure and restructure</u>

  <u>their electronic commerce business activities and relationships</u> …;Col. 19, Lines 53-

  62 - VDE also accommodates a semi-automated process … <u>through user interface</u>

  <u>means</u> … processing certain control information … to certain <u>user interface queries</u>

  for selection of certain alternative choices …);

- for each identified activity, querying the user to provide process control elements

  that define a behavior of the respective activity of the business process (e.g., Col.

  84, Lines 45-59 - ... These same components can be combined in different ways to

  form different component assemblies providing <u>completely different functional</u>

  <u>behavior</u> ...) with respect to a business object to be acted on by the activity (e.g.,

  Col. 2, Lines 34-39 - ... transaction control ...), said process control elements

  including:

  - a status element, which represents a progress level within the business

    process that the data object has reached by arriving at the instant activity

    (e.g., Col. 93, Lines 38-41 - ... to store control and <u>status information</u>; Col. 94,

    Lines 63-67 - ... <u>a mechanism for querying the status</u> and controlling a loaded

    services ...; Fig. 28 – element of 447(1) - Receiving Record; Col. 155, Lines

    44-49 - ... scheduled and/or completed reception ...; Col. 290, Lines 27-40 -

    ... use the search mechanism to help locate content ... schedule content for

    delivery, make inquiries of account status ...);

  - a user interface element, which defines the scope within which users are

    allowed to operate on the data object for the instant activity (e.g., Abstract,

    Lines 1-11 - ... to ensure that information is <u>accessed and used only in</u>

    <u>authorized way</u> and maintain the integrity, availability, and/or confidentiality of

    the information ...; Fig. 72A – LOG IN USER INTERFACE; Col. 6, Lines 19-

    32 – Chain of Handling and Control - ... VDE can protect a collection of rights

    belonging to various parties having in rights in, or to, electronic information ...;

Col. 17, Lines 33-37 – VDE supports widely varying business and/or data

security models that <u>can involve a broad range of participants at various</u>

<u>"levels" of VDE content and/or content control information pathways of</u>

<u>handling</u>);

- a plausibility check element, which verifies that the data object sufficiently

  meets a set of criteria to proceed past the instant activity (e.g., Col. 19, Lines

  38-44 - … from <u>an automated electronic process</u> … "<u>evaluated</u>" ... whether

  <u>certain other electronic terms and conditions</u> attached to content ... are

  <u>acceptable</u> ...);

- a release element, which signals that the data object is ready to proceed past

  the instant activity in the business process (e.g., Col. 57, Lines 53-55 – The

  "events process" <u>detects things that happen ("event") and determines which</u>

  <u>of those "events" need action by the other "processes."</u>; Fig. 52; Col.189,

  Lines 50-55 – CLOSE method also releases appropriate records and

  resources associated with the object at this time …), and

- an authorization element, which specifies a set of users that is allowed to

  operate on the data object for the instant activity (e.g., Abstract, Lines 1-11 -

  … to ensure that information is <u>accessed and used only in authorized way</u>

  and maintain the integrity, availability, and/or confidentiality of the information

  …; Fig. 36; Fig. 78 – element 3346 – Authorization System; Col. 11, Line 60

  through Col. 12, Lines 46; Col. 17, Lines 33-37 - … <u>a broad range of</u>

 participants at various "levels" of VDE content and/or content control

 information pathways of handling); and

o storing defined business process and activity behaviors in configuration data

 of the computer system (e.g., Col. 27, Line 1 through Col. 28, Line 17 –

 employ "templates" to ease the process of configuring capabilities of the

 present invention as they relate to specific industries or business ...

 Templates support the efficient specification and/or manipulation of criteria

 related to specific content types, distribution approaches ...; Col. 56, Lines

 56-58 – "Rules and controls" may "persist" as they pass through a "chain of

 handling and control" ...); and

o dynamically generating the business process from the activities and the

 process control elements provided by the user, to operate on business

 objects managed by the computer system (e.g., Col. 88, Lines 2-7 - the ability

 to dynamically assemble independently deliverable components at execution

 time based on particular objects and users provides a high degree of

 flexibility, and facilitates or enables a distributed database, processing and

 execution environment ...; Col. 169, Lines 11-21 – ROS (Rights Operating

 System) dynamically creates active processes and task in response to the

 occurrence of an event ... This ability to dynamically create (and end) tasks in

 response to events provides great flexibility ...)

11.   **As to claim 8** (Currently Amended) (incorporating the rejection in claim 7),

please refer to claim **5** as set forth above accordingly.

12.   **As to claim 9** (Currently Amended), Ginter discloses a method comprising:

reading configuration data to determine a behavior of a user-identified activity of a

business process with respect to a business object (e.g., Col. 27, Line 1 through Col.

28, Line 17 – employ "templates" to ease the process of configuring capabilities of the

present invention as they relate to specific industries or business ... Templates support

the efficient specification and/or manipulation of criteria related to specific content types,

distribution approaches ...; Col. 56, Lines 56-58 – "Rules and controls" may "<u>persist</u>" as

they pass through a "chain of handling and control" ...), to be acted on by the activity,

wherein user-provided process control elements define the behavior stored in the

configuration data said process control elements (e.g., Col. 2, Lines 34-39 - ...

transaction control ...) including:

- a status element, which represents a progress level within the business process

  that the data object has reached by arriving at the instant activity ();

- a user interface element, which defines the scope within which users are allowed

  to operate on the data object for the instant activity (e.g., Col. 93, Lines 38-41 -

  ... to store control and <u>status information</u>; Col. 94, Lines 63-67 - ... <u>a mechanism</u>

  <u>for querying the status</u> and controlling a loaded services ...; Fig. 28 – element of

  447(1) - Receiving Record; Col. 155, Lines 44-49 - ... scheduled and/or

  completed reception ...; Col. 290, Lines 27-40 - ... use the search mechanism to

help locate content ... schedule content for delivery, make inquiries of account

status ...)

- a plausibility check element, which verifies that the data object sufficiently meets
  a set of criteria to proceed past the instant activity (e.g., Col. 19, Lines 38-44 - ...
  from <u>an automated electronic process</u> ... "<u>evaluated</u>" ... whether <u>certain other</u>
  <u>electronic terms and conditions</u> attached to content ... are <u>acceptable</u> ...);

- a release element, which signals that the data object is ready to proceed past the
  instant activity in the business process (e.g., Col. 57, Lines 53-55 – The "events
  process" <u>detects things that happen ("event") and determines which of those</u>
  <u>"events" need action by the other "processes</u>."; Fig. 52; Col.189, Lines 50-55 –
  CLOSE method also releases appropriate records and resources associated with
  the object at this time ...), and

- an authorization element, which specifies a set of users that is allowed to operate
  on the data object for the instant activity (e.g., Abstract, Lines 1-11 - ... to ensure
  that information is <u>accessed and used only in authorized way</u> and maintain the
  integrity, availability, and/or confidentiality of the information ...; Fig. 36; Fig. 78 –
  element 3346 – Authorization System; Col. 11, Line 60 through Col. 12, Lines 46;
  Col. 17, Lines 33-37 - ... <u>a broad range of participants at various "levels" of VDE</u>
  <u>content and/or content control information pathways of handling</u>); and

- performing the activity in accordance with the configuration data (e.g., Col. 27,
  Line 1 through Col. 28, Line 17 – employ "templates" to ease the process of
  configuring capabilities of the present invention as they relate to specific

industries or business … Templates support the efficient specification and/or

manipulation of criteria related to specific content types, distribution approaches

…; Col. 56, Lines 56-58 – "Rules and controls" may "persist" as they pass

through a "chain of handling and control" …)

13.   **As to claim 10** (Currently Amended) (incorporating the rejection in claim 9),

Ginter discloses the method wherein values in the configuration data wherein the

behavior of the activity is defined are read based on a retrieval parameter associated

with a process control area of the activity (e.g., Fig. 21, element of 872a –

PARAMETERS & DATA; Col. 20, Lines 49-59 - … for data values based on operational

parameters …)

14.   **As to claim 11** (Currently Amended) (incorporating the rejection in claim 9),

Ginter discloses the method wherein the status element relates to a stage of the

business process (e.g., Col. 270, Lines 48-53 - … be stipulated at any stage of a

distribution chain of handling …)

15.   **As to claim 12** (Original) (incorporating the rejection in claim 9), Ginter discloses

the method wherein the user interface element relates to at least one of an appearance

and operability of a user interface for handling the business object (e.g., Col. 19, Lines

53-62 - VDE also accommodates a semi-automated process … through user interface

means ... processing certain control information ... to certain <u>user interface queries</u> for selection of certain alternative choices ...)

16.   **As to claim 13** (Original) (incorporating the rejection in claim 9), Ginter discloses the method wherein the plausibility check element relates to plausibility checks on data relating to the business object (e.g., Col. 19, Lines 38-44 - ... from <u>an automated electronic process</u> ... "<u>evaluated</u>" ... whether <u>certain other electronic terms and conditions</u> attached to content ... are <u>acceptable</u> ...)

17.   **As to claim 14** (Original) (incorporating the rejection in claim 9), Ginter discloses the method wherein the release element relates to an approval for the business object to be acted on by a subsequent activity (e.g., Col. 26, Lines 39-42 - ... enable users to take specific actions <u>such as approving a transaction</u> ...)

18.   **As to claim 15** (Currently Amended) (incorporating the rejection in claim 9), Ginter discloses the method wherein the authorization element relates to an authorization to act on the business object (e.g., Col. 162, Lines 55 -65 - ... authenticates user authorization to make the change to secure database ...)

Conclusion

19.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ben C. Wang whose telephone number is 571-270-

1240. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00

p.m., EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Tuan Q. Dam can be reached on 571-272-3695. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Ben C Wang/   /Tuan Q. Dam/
Examiner, Art Unit 2192   Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2192
September 25, 2008